

In the Claims:

The following amended claims replace all prior versions of the claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A surgical reamer spindle (~~15, 115~~) which is easily disassembled for cleaning, the spindle being elongated, having first and second ends and a central housing (~~113, 213, 313, 314, 413, 414, 502~~), the housing substantially enclosing a drive train (~~207~~) and comprised of at least two elongated housing members (~~113, 213, 313, 314, 413, 414~~), wherein at least one of the first and second ends is retained to hold parallel adjacent surface portions of the two elongated housing members in a drive-train-enclosing relationship by a capture mechanism (~~455, 490, 486, 502~~) comprising a locking ring (~~455~~) and an elastic device (~~486~~), the locking ring biased in a locking position by the elastic device, the at least two elongated housing[[s]] members being separable from one another along the parallel adjacent surface portions ~~approximately along a plane substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis (116) of the housing so as to permit cleaning and/or changing out of the housing members for other housing members of a different form in order to suit different surgical protocols.~~

2. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle of claim 1 wherein the capture mechanism (~~455, 490, 486, 502~~) further comprises a locking sleeve (~~482a~~) to which a repositionable handle (~~500~~) is attached, wherein the elastic device (~~486~~) is disposed between the locking sleeve and the locking ring so as to bias the locking ring in a locking position and to bias the locking sleeve, and thus attached repositionable handle, into a locked angular position about an axis (~~116~~) of the spindle, the locking ring aiding in holding the reamer spindle together, wherein removal of the locking ring against an elastic bias of the elastic means unfastens an end of the assembly in order to facilitate disassembly and/or cleaning.

3. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle of claim 2, wherein the locking

sleeve (482a) has recesses (482e) for receiving pins (484) engaged in a shoulder (502e) fixed to the housing, the locking sleeve, and thus the adjustable handle (500), locking when the pins are received into the recesses, thereby locking the locking sleeve to the shoulder and thus to the housing.

4. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle of claim 2, wherein the locking ring (455) has at least one pin (444) affixed thereto, the at least one pin locking the locking ring in a locking position when the locking ring is biased into a bayonet recess (260, 492) by the elastic device (486).

5. (currently amended) The reamer spindle of claim 1, wherein the drive train (207) is selected from a group of drive trains consisting of nickel titanium drive trains, ferrous metal drive trains, flexible round wound cable drive trains, flat wire wound cable drive trains, gear-driven shaft drive trains, and drive trains having shafts connected via universal joints.

6. (currently amended) An elongated surgical reamer spindle (315) having an adjustable handle (500) which is easily disassemblable for cleaning, the spindle having first and second ends and an elongated central housing comprised of two elongated housing members wherein at least one of the first and second ends is retained to hold parallel adjacent surface portions of the two elongated housing members so as to (113, 213, 313, 314, 413, 414, 502), ~~the housing substantially enclosing substantially enclose~~ a drive train (207), wherein an lockable adjustment mechanism (450) adjustably locks the handle in angular positions about the spindle, the lockable adjustment mechanism comprising a locking ring (455) and a locking sleeve (482a) to which the adjustable handle is connected, wherein further an elastic device (486) is disposed between the locking sleeve and the locking ring so as to bias the locking ring in a locking position and to bias the locking sleeve, and thus the handle, in a selected angularly locked position about the housing, wherein removal of the locking ring against the bias of the elastic device facilitates disassembly of the spindle for

cleaning.

7. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle of claim 6, wherein the locking sleeve (482a) has recesses (482e) for receiving pins (484) engaged in a shoulder (502e) fixed to the housing, the locking sleeve, and thus the adjustable handle (500), locking when the pins are received into the recesses, thereby locking the locking sleeve to the shoulder and thus to the housing.

8. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle of claim 6, wherein the locking ring (455) has at least one pin (41) affixed thereto, the at least one pin locking the locking ring in a locking position when the locking ring is biased into a bayonet recess (260, 492) by the elastic device (486).

9. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle of claim 8 wherein the drive train (207) is selected from a group of drive trains consisting of nickel titanium drive trains, ferrous metal drive trains, flexible round wound cable drive trains, flat wire wound cable drive trains, gear-driven shaft drive trains, and drive trains having shafts connected via universal joints.

10. (currently amended) A surgical reamer spindle kit (600) including: a surgical reamer spindle as claimed in claim 1 with a drive train (207) having, at one end thereof, a reamer holder (120); and at least one matching pair of housing members (313, 314, 413, 414) adapted for receiving the drive train and constraining the drive train in an operational orientation.

11. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 10 comprising at least two matching pairs of housing members (313, 314, 413, 414) of differing form, each form suitable to suit different surgical protocols.

12. (original) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 10 further comprising at least

one surgical reamer (1).

13. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 10, further comprising a femoral prosthesis (604).

14. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 10, further comprising an acetabular cup prosthesis (606).

15. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 10, further comprising an impactor (602).

16. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 10 further comprising a sterilization case (610).

17. (currently amended) A surgical reamer spindle kit (600) including: a surgical reamer spindle as claimed in claim 6 with a drive train (207) having, at one end thereof, a reamer holder (120); and at least one matching pair of housing members (313, 314; 413, 414) adapted for receiving the drive train and constraining the drive train in an operational orientation.

18. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 17 comprising at least two matching pairs of housing members (313, 314; 413, 414) of differing form, each form suitable to suit different surgical protocols.

19. (original) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 17 further comprising at least one surgical reamer (1).

20. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 17, further comprising a femoral prosthesis (604).

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21. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 17, further comprising an acetabular cup prosthesis (606).

22. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 17, further comprising an impactor (602).

23. (currently amended) The surgical reamer spindle kit of claim 17 further comprising a sterilization case (610).